

REMARKS

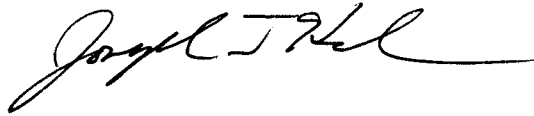
Claims 4, 8, 9, 16 and 26 are amended to correct minor errors of form. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given to this case. The Examiner has restricted claims in this case to two distinct inventions designated as Invention I, claims 1-30 drawn to evaluating an essay by comparing it to a model; and Invention II, claims 31-54, drawn to generating the model using a machine learning tool. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has inappropriately restricted the claims of the instant case to a number of distinct inventions and sub-combinations without consideration of the relationship between the inventions. Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement and requests reconsideration. In order to be fully responsive, Applicants have provisionally elected, with traverse, the invention of Invention I drawn to claims 1-30. By this election, Applicants do not admit, nor do Applicants waive the right to argue against at a later date, the Examiner's statement that the groups of inventions are patentably distinct. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present the claims of Invention II, or other claims, in one or more divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part applications at a later date.

The Examiner has stated that Invention I is concerned with comparison to a model to identify writing style errors and Invention II is concerned with the generation of the model that will be used later to identify the writing style errors. It is respectfully submitted that the search classification for each group will substantially overlap. For example, numerous limitations in the independent claims of Invention I are substantially similar to limitations in the independent claims of Invention II and will not require substantially differing searches to be performed. Accordingly, the Examiner will not be seriously burdened by searching and considering the inventions described in the restricted claims.

Accordingly, the Examiner has not established a proper restriction requirement under MPEP §803, and it is respectfully submitted that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn, and that the Application is now in condition for examination and allowance on the merits. Notice to such effect is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph T. Helmsen", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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